RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS GAS SERVICES DIVISION

GAS UTILITIES INFORMATION BULLETIN

No. 754



RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

Victor G. Carrillo, Chairman Charles R. Matthews, Commissioner Michael L. Williams, Commissioner

> Stephen L. Pitner Director Gas Services Division

> > August 25, 2004

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	<u>PAGE</u>
SECTION 1 - NEW APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS FILED	2
SECTION 2 - APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS SET FOR HEARING	2
SECTION 3 - STATUS OF PENDING CASES	2
SECTION 4 - NOTICES OF DISMISSAL	2
SECTION 5 - ORDERS OF THE COMMISSION	3
SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS	4 - 6

Orders were issued in the following dockets:

GAS UTILITIES DOCKET NO. 9528 STATEMENT OF INTENT FILED BY CENTERPOINT ENERGY ENTEX TO CHANGE RATES IN THE ENVIRONS OF CONROE, TEXAS (CONROE ENVIRONS).

SECTION 1 NEW APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS FILED

None at this time.

SECTION 2 APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS SET FOR HEARING OR PREHEARING CONFERENCE

None at this time.

SECTION 3 STATUS OF PENDING CASES

None at this time.

SECTION 4 NOTICES OF DISMISSAL

None at this time.

SECTION 5 ORDERS OF THE COMMISSION

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

STATEMENT OF INTENT FILED BY	§
CENTERPOINT ENERGY ENTEX TO	
CHANGE RATES IN THE ENVIRONS	§ GAS UTILITIES DOCKET NO. 9528
OF CONROE, TEXAS (CONROE	8
ENVIRONS)	o

SUSPENSION ORDER

Notice of Open Meeting to consider this Order was duly posted with the Secretary of State within the time provided by law pursuant to TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. Chapter 551 (Vernon 1994 and Vernon Supp. 2004).

On August 9, 2004, CenterPoint Energy Entex (Entex) filed with the Railroad Commission of Texas (Commission) a statement of intent to change rates in the environs of the City of Conroe, pursuant to TEX. UTIL. CODE ANN. § 104.102 (Vernon 1998 and Supp. 2004). Entex proposed the rates become effective with bills rendered on and after September 13, 2004. Entex proposed the final rates of the proposed two-step process to occur on and after July 1, 2005.

The Commission has the authority to suspend the proposed rates for a period of one hundred fifty (150) days from the date on which the rates would otherwise become effective, under TEX. UTIL. CODE ANN. § 104.107(a)(2) (Vernon 1998 and Supp. 2004). The Commission requires further time to consider the propriety of the proposed rate change. A suspension order is necessary to extend the implementation of the proposed rate for a period of one hundred fifty (150) days from the date on which the rates would otherwise become effective.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS that the rates proposed in Entex's statement of intent are hereby SUSPENDED for a period of one hundred fifty (150) days from the date the rates would otherwise go into effect.

SIGNED this 24th day of August 2004.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
VICTOR G. CARRILLO, CHAIRMAN
/s/ CHARLES R. MATTHEWS, COMMISSIONER
/s/ MICHAEL L. WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

/s/ Kim Williamson SECRETARY

SECTION 6 MISCELLANEOUS

STEPHEN L. PITNER, GAS SERVICES DIVISION DIRECTOR

1. OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

A. <u>Publications</u>

- Texas Utilities Code Titles 3 and 4. Special Rules of Practice and Procedure and Substantive Rules - \$15.00
- a. Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2002 Now available via the Commission's website at:

http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/gs/tablecontents02.html

b. Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2001 – available via the Commission's website at:

http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/gs/tablecontents01.html

- a. Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2000 \$17.00 (includes statistical data for 1999)
- b. Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1999 \$9.00 (includes statistical data for 1998)
- c. Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1998 \$7.00 (includes statistical data for 1997)
- 3. Six MCF Monthly Residential Gas Bill Analysis for Twenty-five Texas Cities \$2.00 Now available via the Commission's website at: http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/gs/rap/sixmcf.html

Anyone who wishes to obtain a copy of any of the publications or maps listed in Section A should contact the Central Records Section at 512-463-6887 OR 512-463-6882 P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967.

B. Interest Rate on Customer Deposits

We have been advised by the Public Utility Commission that the interest rate to be applied to customer deposits in calendar year 2004 is 6.00%. All gas utilities should use this rate.

2. UTILITY AUDIT SECTION

A. Maintains headquarters and three district offices as follows:

Dallas District- 1546 Rowlett Rd., Suite 107, Garland, Texas 75043

Headquarters - William B. Travis Building

1701 North Congress, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78701

Ed Abrahamson, Director

Telephone (512) 463-7022

Telephone (972) 240-5757;

Fax (972)303-1897

Yolandra Davis, Auditor Josh Settle, Auditor

Austin District- P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967

Telephone (512) 463-7022

Stephen Cooper, Senior Auditor

Houston District- 1706 Seamist Drive. Suite 501, Houston, Texas 77008-3135 Telephone (713) 869-8425; Fax (713)869-3219

Larry Alcorn, Auditor Dale Francis, Auditor Brian L. Sparkman, Auditor Margie Stoney, Senior Auditor Konata Uzoma, Auditor

B. Gas Utility Tax, Annual Reports and Audit Reports

Questions relating to gas utility tax, annual reports and audit reports, call Shannon L. Miller at (512) 463-7022.

C. Available Information

Copies of company annual reports (1994 to present), as well as information relating to any of the above, A through C, are available for review at the William B. Travis Building, Gas Services Division, 9th Floor, 1701 North Congress. All requests for copies must be made in writing and should be addressed to the Audit Section. Copies will be provided for a fee, depending on the volume of copy work desired, allow a minimum of five days for completion of requests. Inquiries regarding copies should be directed to the Audit Section at (512) 463-7022, or Fax your request to (512) 475-3180.

3. MARKET OVERSIGHT

A. Maintains the following office to assist you:

Headquarters - William B. Travis Building 1701 North Congress, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 William O. Geise, Director

Telephone (512) 463-7164

B. <u>Gas Utilities Information Bulletin</u>

Published on the Commission's web site at: http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/gs/rap/rapbls.html.

C. Proposals For Decision

Published on the Commission's web site at: http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/divisions/gs/rap/pfds.html.

D. Tariff Filings

Questions pertaining to the filing of tariffs and/or quality of service rules should be directed to Kathy Arroyo, Yolanda Lovelace or Marie Blanco at (512) 463-7164.

E. Curtailments

Curtailment questions should be referred to (512) 463-7164. Curtailment reports made Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., should be made to (512) 463-7164. Curtailment reports made during hours other than those specified above and holidays, should be made to (512) 463-6788.

F. Compliance Filings

Questions regarding gas utilities docket compliance filing requirements should be referred to Mark Brock at (512) 463-7164.

G. <u>Complaints and Inquiries</u>

All complaints and inquiries relating to the gas utility industry should be directed to the Market Oversight Section at (512) 463-7164.

H. Pending RRC Rules and Regulations:

GUD No. 9253 New Rule for Relocation Cost Recovery Factor

GUD No. 9275 Amendments to §7.512 NGPA Section 311 Rate Review

GUD No. 9276 Amendments to §7.511 TUC Section 102.054 Sale, Transfer, Merger Reviews

GUD No. 9277 Amendments to §7.305 Curtailment Rule

GUD No. 9449 Amendments to §7.45 Quality of Service

4. HEARINGS AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

A. Miscellaneous

Anyone wishing to obtain copies of appendices to Orders appearing in Section 5 of this Bulletin should contact the Legal Division at (512) 463-7017.

B. Status of Pending Cases

The status of all pending cases listed in Section 3 of this Bulletin is for informational purposes only and is complete up to the time of printing of this Bulletin. For a more accurate status of pending cases, please call the Legal Division at (512) 463-7017.